

*SmartWay Transport Partnership is a voluntary public-private initiative designed to improve the environmental performance of the freight delivery system in the United States through money saving, market-based approaches.*

## The Challenge

From ports to manufacturing facilities and distribution centers to your front door, trucks and rail systems are part of a sophisticated, fast moving ground freight delivery system that delivers products safely and on time. Ground freight is an integral part of the United States economy. According to government and industry statistics, 85 percent of the total value of United States cargo is trucked, accounting for 66 percent of all freight by weight. Trucking-related occupations employ about 10 million people. Railroads represent 4% of the total value of all freight by weight, carrying another 16 percent of the nation's freight by weight.

However, ground freight is a major source of greenhouse gas emissions, responsible for approximately about 20% percent of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions from all transportation sources. Ground freight is also a significant source of smog-forming emissions and other harmful air pollutants that impact public health, particularly the young and the elderly. Ground freight accounts for 40 percent of the nitrogen oxide (NO<sub>x</sub>) emissions and 31 percent of the particulate matter (PM) from transportation sources. These emissions can impact air quality and contribute to climate change.

## The Solution

The U.S. EPA's SmartWay Transport Partnership is a voluntary public-private partnership that addresses greenhouse gas emissions, fuel consumption, criteria pollutants (NO<sub>x</sub> and PM), and operating costs associated with ground freight transportation operations. The SmartWay Transport Partnership addresses other key national concerns: energy security, energy savings and environmental justice.

- **Freight vehicles consume approximately 20 percent of energy consumed by the US transportation sector. By conserving fuel from these vehicles, we reduce our dependence on imported oil, thereby safeguarding our nation's energy security.**
- **Promoting new strategies and technologies that improve fuel economy will improve efficiency and reduce fuel costs for freight fleets.**
- **Reducing idling at truck stops addresses community health and environmental justice issues prevalent in certain urban areas.**

Through this voluntary partnership, EPA and its partners expect to eliminate 33 to 66 million metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and up to 200,000 tons of NO<sub>x</sub> emissions per year by 2012. This represents savings of as much as 150 million barrels of oil a year— equivalent to taking about 12 million cars off the road.

Working together, SmartWay Transport partners can incorporate various strategies and technologies to achieve these goals.

### **Carriers can integrate cost saving, fuel efficient technology and strategies into their fleet:**

- Idle Reduction
- Improved Aerodynamics
- Improved Freight Logistics
- Automatic Tire Inflation Systems
- Driver Training
- Advanced Lubricants
- Advanced Powertrain Technologies

### **Shippers can implement facility measures that improve efficiency and reduce emissions:**

- Intermodal Shipping
- Pick-up and Delivery Scheduling
- Full Truck Loads
- Preferential Docking
- Warehouse Improvements
- Electric Forklifts
- Driver Comfort Stations
- Idle-Reduction at Docks

## Partnership Design

There are three key components that make up the SmartWay Transport Partnership:

- **Create Partnerships:** SmartWay Transport Partners are progressive corporations that recognize they can improve their business and the environment at the same time. Companies that provide and hire freight delivery services (carriers and shippers, respectively) become SmartWay Transport Partners by committing to improve the environmental performance of their freight delivery operations. SmartWay Transport Carriers commit to integrate innovative cost saving strategies into their fleet operations. SmartWay Transport Shippers commit to ship the majority of their goods with SmartWay Transport Carriers. Partners that meet SmartWay Transport program requirements will benefit from reduced operating costs and enhanced visibility.

Partners that demonstrate superior performance will earn the right to display the SmartWay Transport logo.

- **Establishing the National Transportation Idle-Free Corridors Program:** EPA's truck and locomotive anti-idling program deploys idle reduction strategies along major transportation corridors in the United States such as ports, borders, truck stops, terminals, rail yards, and even along the side of highways. The SmartWay Transport idling reduction component is a comprehensive national program that provides education and guidance to operators of trucks, locomotives, truck stops, ports, borders, terminals, and rail yards to address the idling problem, as well as limited funding and incentives for truck and locomotive idling reduction demonstration projects.
- **Maximizing Rail Efficiency and Intermodal Operations:** This effort aims to improve the efficiency of rail operations and increase the use of rail to transport freight, both as a specific mode and in conjunction with truck freight as a part of an intermodal strategy.

By defining clear and achievable goals and committing to ambitious strategies, participants in these three components of the SmartWay Transport Partnership are proactively addressing concerns about greenhouse gas reductions and air quality.

## Partner Enrollment

To become a SmartWay Transport Partner, **carriers** must:

- Measure current environmental performance with the SmartWay Transport FLEET Performance Model.
- Commit to improve that performance within 3 years.
- Sign the SmartWay Transport Partnership Agreement.
- Create and submit an Action Plan describing how carrier will achieve commitment.
- Report progress toward achieving the goal to EPA annually.

To become a SmartWay Transport Partner, **shippers** must:

- Commit to ship at least 50% of their goods with SmartWay Transport Partner carriers.
- Assess and commit to improve their facility transportation emissions within 3 years.
- Sign the SmartWay Transport Partnership Agreement.

To meet their goals, all partners must:

- Create and submit an Action Plan describing how shipper will achieve commitment.
- Report progress toward achieving the goal to EPA annually.

The complementary relationship between shippers and carriers maximizes the opportunities for partners to support one another in achieving mutual environmental goals.

## Partner Benefits

Participation in SmartWay Transport provides tangible benefits for companies:

- Shippers can better understand their environmental transportation impact.
- Shippers can reduce the environmental impacts of freight operations by simply choosing to do business with SmartWay Transport carriers.
- Shippers can join a community of leaders and enhance their public image by joining the SmartWay Transport Partnership.
- Carriers can better understand the environmental impact of their fleet operations.
- Carriers can reduce their environmental impact by using recommended technologies and strategies.
- Carriers can save money by incorporating fuel-saving strategies into their fleet operations.
- Carriers have the opportunity to become preferred carriers of SmartWay Transport shippers.
- Carriers can join a community of leaders and enhance their public image by joining the SmartWay Transport Partnership.

Shippers and Carriers that demonstrate superior environmental performance will be able to advertise their status as SmartWay Transport Partners using the official SmartWay logo.

## EPA Assistance

EPA provides software models to assist carriers and shippers with assessing the current emissions and fuel efficiency of fleets and freight operations (e.g. the SmartWay Transport FLEET Performance Model). These tools also allow fleets and companies to evaluate the efficiency improvements and emission reductions available through application of various technologies and strategies. EPA staff is available to answer questions concerning the models and to provide technical assistance.

## For More Information

Visit [www.epa.gov/smartway](http://www.epa.gov/smartway) for more information on the Partnership.